

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figs. 5A and 5B. This sheet replaces the original sheet of drawings.

Attachment: Replacement sheet

Remarks

This Amendment responds to the Office action ("the Action") mailed January 3, 2007. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks. Claims 2-12, 14-18, 20, 24, and 26-28 are pending, and these claims have been allowed.

The Drawings As Amended Should Be Acceptable

The Action rejects the drawings under MPEP § 608.02(g), alleging that Figures 5A and 5B should be labeled as "Prior Art."

Applicants have amended Figure 5A to show, within box 78, an Up-Transcoder "with Superframe Buffer, Decoder, and Frame-based Encoder." Applicants have amended Figure 5B to show, within box 98, a Down-Transcoder "with Buffer, Decoder, and Superframe Encoder." The application as filed supports these changes at, for example, pages 6-9 and 37-40. No new matter has been added.

Applicants also note that the same replacement drawing was accepted in a sibling application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/894,854. [See Office Action for U.S. Patent Application No. 10/894,854, mailed December 29, 2006, at Office Action Summary.]

The Applicants have submitted a replacement sheet of drawings but no marked-up copy of amended Figures 5A and 5B. The preceding remarks explain the changes to the drawings, and the Examiner did not require the Applicants provide a marked-up copy.

Applicants believe the amendment of Figures 5A and 5B now renders the Action's objection under MPEP § 608.02(g) moot. The drawings, as corrected, are in condition to be accepted. The Applicants respectfully request acceptance of the drawings and allowance of the application.

Request For Interview

If any issues remain in light of these remarks and amendments, the Examiner is formally requested to contact the undersigned attorney to arrange a telephonic interview. It is believed that a brief discussion of the merits of the present application may expedite prosecution. Applicants submit the preceding formal Amendment and the above remarks

so that the Examiner may fully evaluate Applicants' position, thereby enabling the interview to be more focused. **This request is being submitted under MPEP § 713.01, which indicates that an interview may be arranged in advance by a written request.**

Conclusion


The claims in their present form are allowable. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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